

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Armored Unit at Stara Zagora 2. Chemical Warfare School at Levskigrad 3. Armored Unit at Sofia	DATE DISTR.	9 November 1954
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Armored Unit at Stara Zagora (Date of Information: Summer 1953)

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1. In the summer of 1953 an armored unit (designation unknown), a component of the Josef Stalin armored division, was quartered near the municipal park in Stara Zagora. The unit area, comprising many buildings on a large site, was surrounded by a barbed wire fence. The unit had approximately 60 Soviet T-34 tanks, approximately 10 two-five-ton ZIS trucks, and seven ZIS trucks adapted as mobile fitters' shops.
2. The tank repair shop, with a staff of 15 soldiers, had three large lathes, two milling machines, one planing machine, one drilling machine, two shaping machines, and two traveling electric cranes. Each mobile fitter's shop had one milling and one drilling machine and an electrical welding apparatus.
3. The unit had a special summer camp at Yagoda (formerly Gorno Panicherevo: N 42-32, E 25-35), where training is carried out from June until the end of November. The camp site, located within the village, is covered with trees.

Chemical Warfare School at Levskigrad (Date of Information: 1952)

4. In 1953 a chemical warfare school for noncommissioned officers of all arms, Podelenie 80980, was located between Levskigrad (formerly Karlovo) and Vazovgrad (formerly Sopot: N 42-39, E 24-45).
5. The course lasts from 12 to 18 months, and the curriculum includes decontamination, use of respirators and anti-gas clothing, smoke screens, and first-aid. This is in addition to the usual training in rifles and automatic weapons, drill, and tactical training for various arms and services.

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC						
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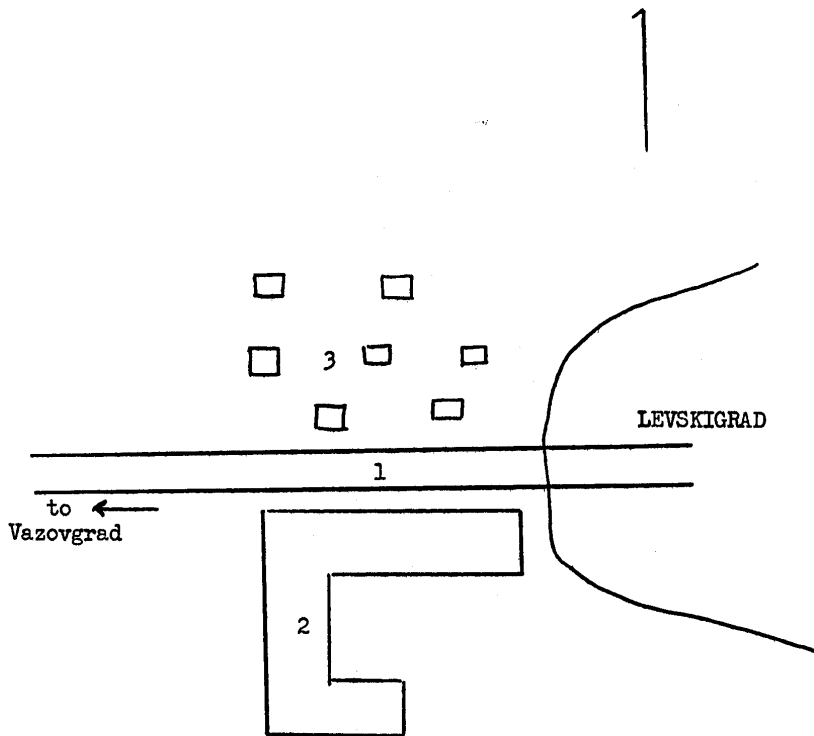
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Chemical Warfare School at Levskigrad



Legend:

1. The Levskigrad-Vazovgrad road.
2. School barracks.
3. Students' quarters.

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Armored Unit at Sofia (Date of Information: Summer 1954)

6. In the summer of 1954, an armored unit was quartered about four kilometers from the center of Sofia on the road to Plovdiv. These barracks, the newest in Sofia, are called Kazarma Pri 4 Kilometer by the local populace. A cavalry and infantry unit have also been stationed there since the beginning of 1954.
7. The strength of this unit is approximately 190 enlisted men and 50 officers. It is equipped with 50 Soviet T-34 tanks.
8. The following personalities are known:
 - a. Lieutenant Batsev (fnu), lecturer in meteorology at the chemical warfare school at Levskigrad, is an officer in the regular Army.
 - b. Captain Vasil Gochev, lecturer on smoke grenades and anti-gas defense at the Levskigrad school, is [redacted] an officer in the regular Army.
 - c. Lieutenant Colonel Kristev (fnu), is commander of the armored unit at Stara Zagora.
 - d. Major Nedev (fnu), deputy commander of the Sofia armored unit is [redacted] a veteran tank officer. His principal work is administrative.
 - e. Lieutenant Parapunov (fnu), secretary of the Party cell in the Sofia armored unit [redacted] He has worked in various Party institutions.
 - f. Lieutenant Stefan Torlakov, chemical warfare officer of the Sofia armored unit, is [redacted] a former mechanic. He has been in the regular Army for approximately three years.
 - g. Major Tsotsev (fnu), lecturer on poison gas at the Levskigrad school [redacted] is an officer in the regular Army.
 - h. Lieutenant Colonel Stoycho Zakhariev, commander of the Sofia armored unit [redacted] He escaped from Bulgaria during the reign of the Tsar and spent many years in the USSR.

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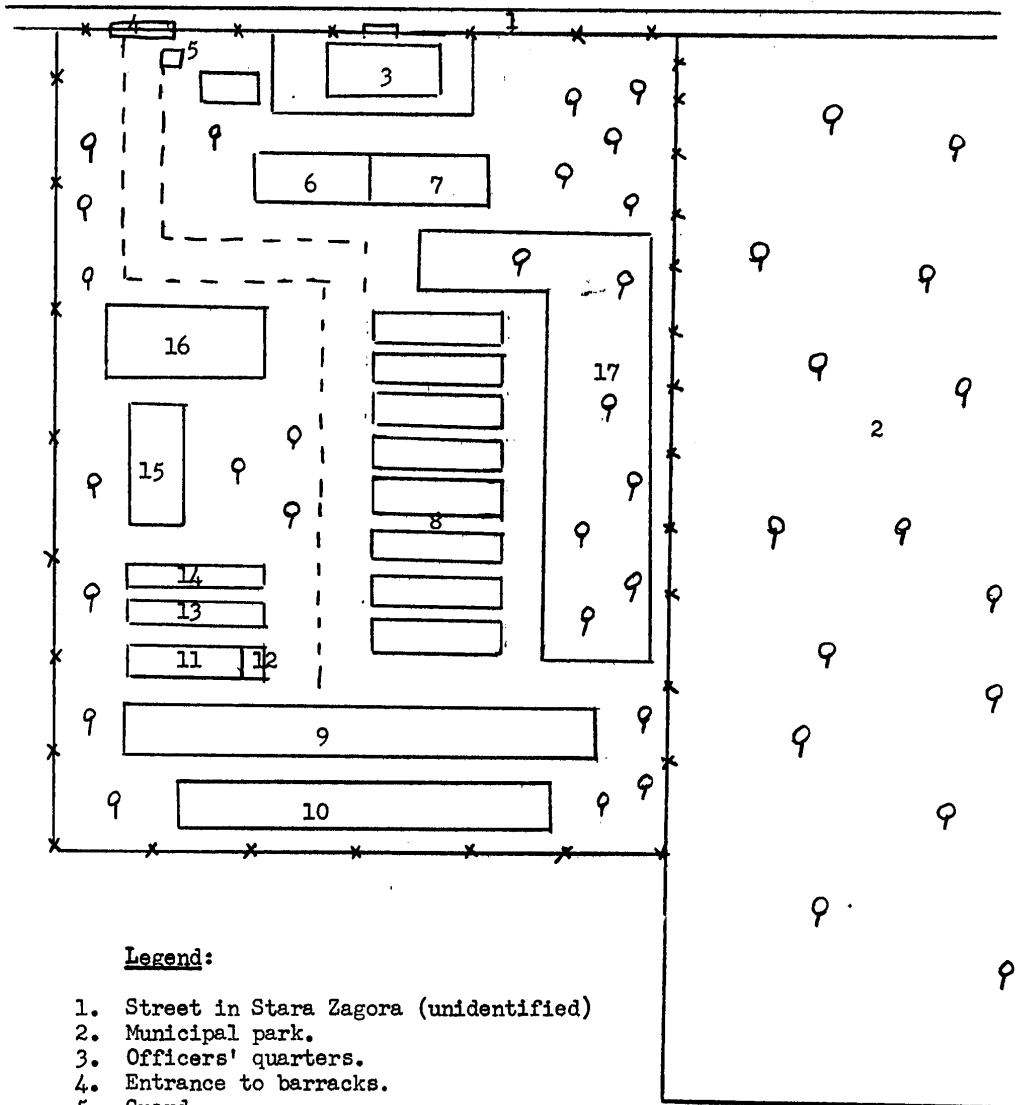
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The Armored Unit at Stara ZagoraLegend:

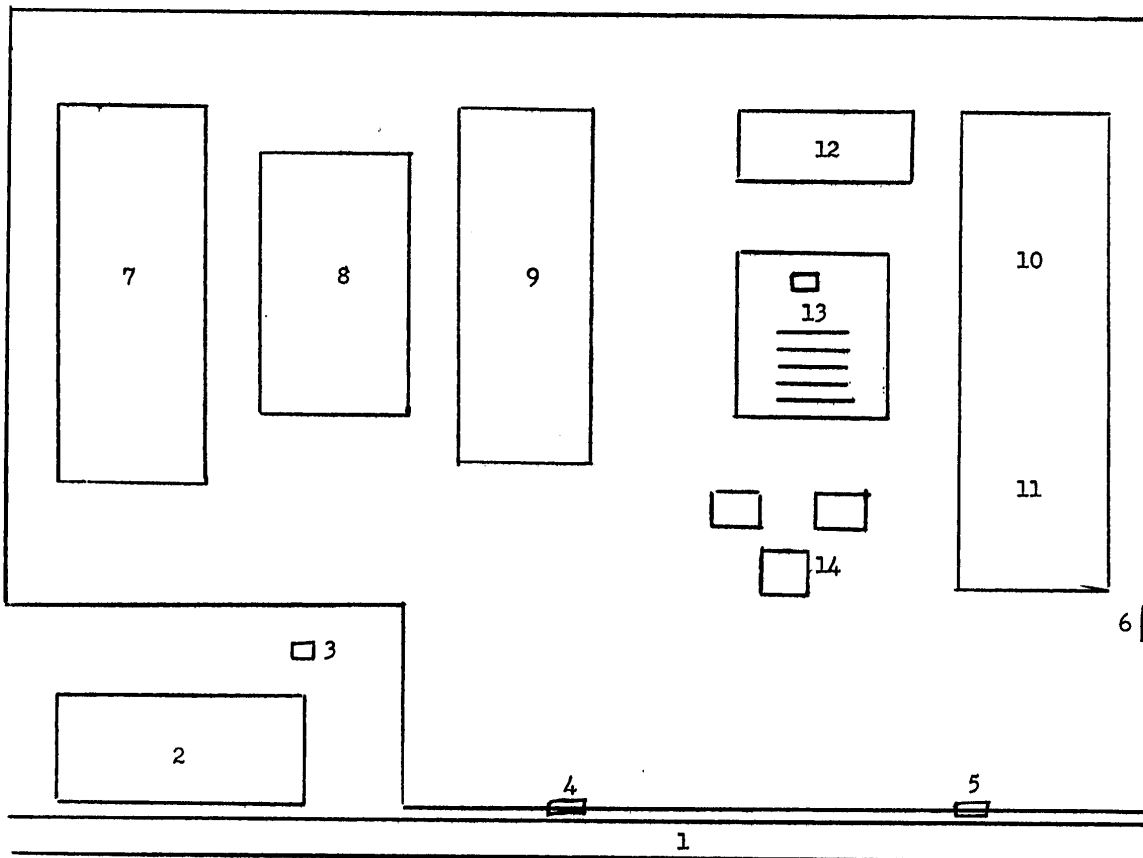
1. Street in Stara Zagora (unidentified)
2. Municipal park.
3. Officers' quarters.
4. Entrance to barracks.
5. Guard
6. Stores for chemicals and anti-gas equipment.
7. Arms repair-shop.
8. Barracks for enlisted men.
9. Tank repair shop.
10. Garage and parking ground for motor cars.
11. Movie.
12. Room for orderly officer.
- 13, 14. Administration.
15. Mess hall.
- 16, 17. Open parking ground for tanks.

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The Armored Unit at SofiaLegend:

1. The Sofia-Plovdiv highway.
2. The Veterinary Faculty.
3. The #4 streetcar terminus.
- 4, 5, 6. Entrances to the barracks.
7. Cavalry unit.
8. Sports and parade ground.
9. Infantry unit.
10. Wooden shed for parking 50 tanks.
11. Quarters of the armored unit.
12. Dining hall for armored unit.
13. Open air theater.
14. Administration and stores for armored unit.

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